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May 20, 1997 LB 389, 858

percentage of the General Fund budget, I believe that the Legislature has an obligation to pay attention to how that agency conducts its business. So I am looking at that agency and I'm offering this amendment. As I say, it's somewhat lengthy. If you want to look on your gadget you can read it or you can go to LB 858 in the bill book. Because of its length and the fact that it's available otherwise, I didn't make copies to distribute to everybody and have on your desk, but you can read it. If you support the amendment, then I would have to return 389 to Select File. Only in that way can a bill on Final Reading be amended. So that is what I'm offering this amendment. I hope that you will support it.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Discussion of the return motion. Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: I'm sorry, Madam President and members.

SENATOR CROSBY: It's all right.

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Chambers has legitimately raised issues that we have raised among members of the Legislature previously the Education Committee and, of course, the Lincoln delegation, which introduced LB 858. We talked about it yesterday. I think that there's, again, a general agreement about the desirability about having a broader representation or faculty of the university of women and minorities. educationally advantageous; it broadens the experience of our students; and it makes for a better overall successful program. goals, The university has agreed with that. The methodologies have been talked about since '91. The question is, how do we move forward? Senator Chambers is trying to propose basically the same bill...I believe that his proposal... I believe that his proposal has a 3 percent escrow, which is more than ours. We had a 1 percent escrow. And so as a result, it's a little more punitive than ours was. percent is about \$12 million. A 1 percent escrow is about \$4 million. So what we think the \$4 million is a significant amount and gets the job done. The 3 percent may not be necessary. The university has been in contact with us. don't particularly like the idea of having a penalty hanging